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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/506,418	02/17/2000	Masumi Senoo	10992503-1	7752

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EXAMINER

LEE, YAONENG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

DATE MAILED: 11/25/2003

2

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/506,418

Applicant(s)

SENOO ET AL.

Examiner

Yaoneng Lee

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 February 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cavill (6003069).

Regarding claim 1, the claimed invention reads on Cavill as follows: Cavill discloses a method of determining whether the entire print job can be processed locally (Fig. 5 reference no. 585, col. 6 line 58-61, wherein the Cavill's determination of a simple or complex print job determines if the print job can be processed locally); processing the entire print job if possible (Fig. 5 ref. no. 565, wherein if entire print job is simple, entire print job can be processed locally) and if print job or its portions cannot be processed locally, sending the print job or its portions to an external rendering device (Fig. 5 ref. no. 560, col. 6 line 61-65); receiving a rendered print job or its portions from external rendering device (Fig. 5 ref no. 570, col. 4 line 6-10); and printing rendered print job received from the external rendering device (Fig. 5 ref. no. 520 and col. 4 line 56-59).

The printing system of Cavill teaches the conversion of print data into suitable text or graphics format for printing (col. 1 line 35-40). The described processing of print data in Cavill defines rendering of print data. Therefore, they are determined to be the referring to identical processes although Cavill does not make any references to "rendering".

Regarding claim 2, Cavill discloses the method of printing that includes sending a portion of the print job that cannot be processed locally to an external rendering device (Fig. 5 ref. no. 560 and col. 6 line 39-42).

Regarding claims 3 and 10, Cavill discloses a printing system of sending a first portion of the print job to a first external rendering device and sending a second portion of the print job to a second external rendering device (col. 3 line 58-61 and col. 5 line 38-41, wherein Cavill describes the transmitting of multiple server side data portions to **at least one server side computing means or rendering means** if taken in the context of the claims).

Regarding claims 4-5 and 11-12, Cavill discloses an external rendering device accessible via the Internet wherein the external rendering device is a server coupled to the Internet (Fig. 5 ref. no. 500 shows a **server** communicating with the client via the Internet according to col. 5, line 5-7).

Regarding claims 6 and 13, Cavill discloses that the determination means of determining if an entire print job can be processed locally is a local printer (Fig. 5 ref. no. 510 specifies a **network computing device (NC)** and according to col. 3, line 36-40, can include a printer).

Regarding claims 7 and 14, Cavill discloses a computer readable memory containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the operations described above (Fig. 5 ref. no. 100, col. 1 line 12-21, line 37-52, wherein the driver application driver including the Job Management User Interface (JMUI) control program on the client-side as shown in Fig. 5 is downloaded onto the client computing device and executed to process a print job). Therefore, Cavill evidently teaches a computer program to perform the print processing methods.

Regarding claim 9, Cavill discloses the combining of print job portions processed locally and rendered portions received from external rendering device (Fig. 5 ref. no. 580, wherein the **JMUI assembles** the simple and complex job portions processed in the client and server computing side respectively, and prints the job in 520, printer device, according to col. 7 line 4-7).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cavill in view of Vatland et al. (5577172), hereinafter as Vatland.

Regarding claim 15, Cavill discloses a client computing system (such as a printer) that includes the limitations of claim 15, the limitations being: a communication

interface of the client system operating on a network that communicates with a server in a network (Fig. 5 ref. no. 580 with col. 10, line 20-27) and a processor in the client-side computing device that processes simple print data (Fig. 5 ref. no. 565 and col. 10 line 32-43, wherein client side processing requires the use of a client-side processor) coupled to the communication interface that determines whether the entire print job can be processed locally by the client-side computing means (Fig. 5 ref. no. 585, col. 6 line 58-61) and processing the entire print job if possible (Fig. 5 ref. no. 565, wherein if print data is simple, client-side system processes entire data). If portions of the print job cannot be processed locally, client system sends portions of the print job to an external rendering device (Fig. 5 ref. no. 560, col. 6 line 61-65) and receives rendered print job portions from external rendering device (Fig. 5 ref. no. 562, 570, col. 4 line 6-10).

However, Cavill does not explicitly disclose or describe the client-side computing means to be a printer with a communication interface coupled to a processor to perform the above-described process and printing output to print out data portions from external rendering devices.

Vatland, on the other hand, describes a printer that has a network interface and a processor (i.e. the raster image processor, RIP) for processing print jobs locally (Fig. 1, ref. no. 22 and 24 respectively and col. 3, line 34-42). The processor in the printer described by Vatland processes the print data locally and prints the processed image in the print engine.

To use the printer system described by Vatland in the client-system processor and processing method of Cavill would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time of invention by the applicant since it is recognized in Cavill that client computing systems can be interpreted broadly to include all devices with computing capabilities such as a printer equipped with a processor, memory (RAM), a user interface and a communication interface.

The motivation to substitute the client side computing means with a printer described by Vatland would have been to create a printing process whereby all communication, print control, rendering and printing are integrated into a single device instead of a separate device for output printing. The printer described by Vatland discloses that particular type of printer that will be able to easily integrate into the system of Cavill as it possesses all the components of a network computer while preserving or enhances the inexpensive nature of the system by combining two separate devices.

Regarding claims 16-17, Cavill further discloses a communication interface of the client-side computing device is a network communication interface coupled to the Internet (col. 10 line 27-28) and the external rendering device is a server coupled to the communication interface (col. 10 line 22-23, wherein server operating on network requires a network interface).

Regarding claim 18, Cavill discloses a printing system of sending a first portion of the print job to a first external rendering device and sending a second portion of the print job to a second or subsequent external rendering device (col. 3 line 58-61 and col. 5 line 38-41, wherein Cavill describes the transmitting of multiple server side data portions

to **at least one server side computing means or rendering means** if taken in the context of the claims).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yaoneng Lee whose telephone number is (703) 305-8670. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.00am-4.30pm (Mon-Fri).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on (703) 308-7452. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9700.

29 October 2003



DAVID MOORE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600